



THE GARZETTE



FEBRUARY 1999

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2

The President's Pen

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM



It seems that as you begin and end any adventure, the first steps and the last steps are the toughest. I know that the first installment of this article was difficult to get started and to get all my thoughts down on paper. Guess what? Well the same thing is occurring as I draft my 24th and final (for the time being anyway) article as President of **GARS**.

It has been a remarkable and rewarding two years for me personally and I've thoroughly enjoyed my time as President of this club. Yes there have been a few bumps in the road along the way but when each and every one of them was resolved it was very satisfying to have been able to meet that particular challenge.

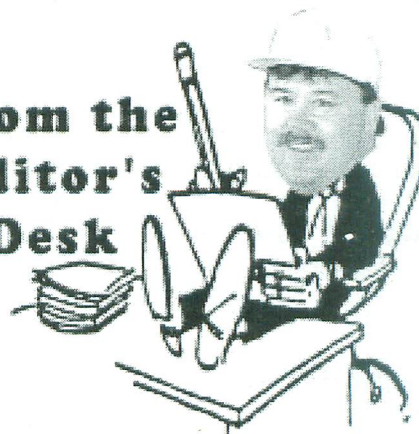
When I took office I said at the time that this would not be a one man operation and could not be a one man operation. I asked for the support of the club and challenged the club membership to get involved in club activities. For the most part that has happened, with many, many club members responding to the challenge to take positions on the executive committee, committee chairs, committee positions, and to staff club events.

I would like to take the time to thank those people that provided that support. Without that support the past two years would not have been enjoyable for me and **GARS** would not have kept up its strength and appeal. When I first sat down to write this article I started to list each person that has made a major contribution to the club over the past two years but quickly realized that I would end up taking up a major portion of this month's newsletter. The other problem was that I didn't want to slight anyone by not mentioning them and that was bound to happen, no matter how thorough I tried to be in preparing that list. So instead, let me give out my thanks to each and every club member for their great level of support of over the past two years and it is my hope that you will give my successor that same support.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with two executive committees and two groups of committee chairman over the past two years. These are the folks that work hard behind the scenes, at club meetings, committee meetings, and

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From the Editor's Desk



It Has Been A Privilege

By Joe Biddle, AD4PZ

Two years ago, "The Journey Continues", was my first article written for the **GARZETTE** as editor. As I write this I wonder what title I should attach to it: "The Journey Ends", "Fond Farewell", "So Long, But Not Good-bye". But rather than use something catchy or flashy, I just went with humble feelings.

It really has been my privilege as editor of the Club Newsletter to be one of the focal points for club news and information. When I first accepted the position I had just upgraded my computer from a 386 and was getting used to some real speed. After learning some 'Publisher 97' techniques and some creative stress relieving techniques, the first bytes of a complete **GARZETTE** left my computer for whiter pastures (hard copy, on paper, to print, etc.). Later down the road

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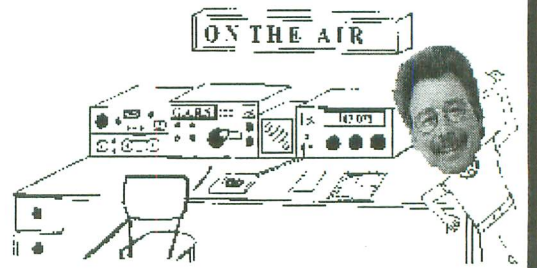
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♦♦♦

On The Air with Tad Danley, K3TD by Karl Phillips, K4GZZ



Tad was born outside of Pittsburgh and through grammar and high school in that area. After graduating from high school, Tad attended the University of Pittsburgh and graduated from there in 1976.

Tad got interested in amateur radio in 1972 and obtained his technician license that year. This was before the current days of the VEC Program. As a technician, Tad received the call sign WA3TGR (Tad's Great Radio)!!!

In 1977, Tad upgraded to Advanced as a 2X2 call KB3PF. Tad wasn't that entertained by the new call as he felt it too long in CW. In 1988, Tad became NZ3I and had relocated to Alexandria, Virginia. Tad relocated to Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1990 and worked for E.F. Johnson Company until 1992. E.F. Johnson made ham radio transmitters and citizens band equipment. As a novice, I used a Johnson Viking Ranger transmitter.

Tad moved to Atlanta in 1992 and on election day of 1996 he received the vanity call K3TD. Tad now works for Nextel Communications dealing in digital wireless communications.

Tad's other hobby is model rocketry. While enjoying that hobby, Tad met John Kemker and got John interested in ham radio. As you all know John is KF4MZD and cites Tad as his official Elmer. Tad got interested in model rocketry when he picked up a copy of High Power Rocketry magazine. Tad noticed that John was listed as an active member of the rocketry hobby. Tad called John and offered assistance in teaching an amateur radio class to model rocketry enthusiasts who desired to cross over into the ham radio hobby. John followed suit and thus Tad became involved in GARS and joined the club. Tad states that his personal altitude rec-

ord for model rocketry is around 7,000 feet or about 1.325 miles up. Pretty doggone high !! Tad says that the maximum altitude for rockets allowed on the east coast is around 10,000 while height requirements on the west coast reach 100,000 feet. About 520,000 feet in altitude is required to reach orbit altitude.

Tad says that he has struggled with CW but has been instrumental in the frequency coordination of our new GARS 6 meter repeater. Tad assisted with the grounding and shelving of the 6 meter system. Tad hopes all GARS members with 6 meter capabilities uses the new machine and states that you really don't need a super great antenna system to work it. Tad says that a simple ground plane will do the job.

Tad's has one son and he is licensed K3TAD and is a student in West Liberty, Pennsylvania. They QSO when his son is in town. Tad was officially recruited for GARS by Johnny Fearon - W4WKP and Dean Mathews - AD4OD. Tad said that they made him feel real welcome. Tad was a very up guy during my interview and something tells me he is real proud of the club and especially the new "toy" he helped get on the air. Join me in welcoming Tad to the club and hopefully we will see more of him in the future.

Best 73 and good DX. I'll be back next month with another ON THE AIR feature article.

Karl - K4GZZ



I apologize for being out of touch with everyone during the holidays and first of January. Work interfered with my holiday vacation and then the company sent me out of town for nearly two weeks during the first of the year. Now with all that over, I'm ready to get back into the swing of things.

First thing to talk about is the January statewide ARES meeting conducted by the Section Manager, Sandy Donahue (W4RU) and the Section Emergency Coordinator, Tom Rogers (KR4OL). The meeting was held in Forsyth, GA. at the GA. Public Safety Training Building. This facility is impressive and very convenient to find off of I-75. Approximately 65 ARES members attended the conference. Sandy (W4RU) opened the meeting with a State of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) and Ham Radio address. Membership in the ARRL has declined some, meaning less revenue for the League to promote amateur radio. If you are not an ARRL member, please consider becoming one. If you're letting a pier's opinion of the League (some of which is very negative) block your decision of joining, please investigate for yourself the benefits of being a member. Make your decision on fact and not the opinions of others. Contact GARS to become a League member through the club. Also down is the number of active EC's (Emergency Coordinators) in GA. Out of 159 counties, only 65 have active EC's. There was great news for Metro Area though. Our DEC, Steve Strong, KS4EL, (Metro Atlanta's District Emergency Coordinator) has filled several empty EC positions. Chuck Daley (KD4LQX) was appointed Fulton County's EC, John Galbraith (KF4DVM) appointed Cobb County's EC, Rodney Jones (KF4PCN) appointed Dekalb County's EC and Gene Miller (KF4YUR) is Rockdale County's new EC.

Each DEC present at the meeting gave a brief update on their area of jurisdiction. I met Rick Darby (KE4NJX) who is the new DEC of Northeast GA. He has put together a great incentive program for awarding "Communication Patches" to ARES members. The point of the program is to get the ARES member to assemble a efficient ready bag for use at a disaster site. I've asked Rick to speak at one of our ARES meetings this year and explain his program to us. More details on this will be released later.

A big surprise was in store for me at the meeting. The "GA. 1998 ARES Amateur of the Year" was to be announced at the meeting. Last year Robert Burton

(KD4YDC) was the recipient. As I was taking notes down, I penciled in Amateur Of the Year on my notepad to record the name of this year's recipient. As Tom (KR4OL) began telling the group about the still unannounced recipient, I immediately knew the person was from Metro Atlanta section. As he continued, I began to wonder, "Is he talking about me?" Well, when he stated my name as the

recipient, I thought I might have misunderstood him and was hesitant about going up. But he was looking right at me as well as everybody else, so I decided it must be me. Wow! What do I say, am I really standing up here in front of all these people and I wish I had dressed better today. As I told the group there, I'll say here and that is my name may appear on the plaque, but it's the fine ARES members working with me that make the Gwinnett ARES/SKYWARN group so effective in providing emergency communications. Without you, the ARES member, the organization wouldn't function. So to all that helped in 1998, your name too appears on that plaque as far as I'm concerned. Thanks for your support and thanks to Steve Strong (KS4EL) for nominating me.

A quick update on what's ahead this year. I need 8 volunteers to work CPR Saturday for the Red Cross on March 6th. The time is 8:30am until 2:30pm. The locations will be Norcross High School and Collins Hill High School. I'll need 2 operators at each location for 3 hour shifts. If you would like to be enrolled in the 4 hour class, that can be arranged to fit in before or after your shift. Of course you can take the class without participating with the communication activity. Call me for more information or to volunteer for this activity. Then in March, Pat Runkel (KC4DOO), one of the Gwinnett Red Cross Captains, will be talking about what will be needed from us during disasters of different varieties, storm, flood, fire, etc. Also this will give us a chance to get to know the Red Cross better and further strengthen our relationship with them. As mentioned before, Rick (KE4NJX) will speak at an upcoming meeting. Barry Zoll (N1TOQ) and myself will be giving a class on home generator usage in the near future.

That's enough for this month. Let's get prepared for the spring tornado season. Also check the ARES web-page regularly for updates on activities here in Gwinnett Co. Don't forget the 2nd Tuesday monthly ARES meetings and VHF net on Monday nights. See ya later.

...Been A Privilege

(Continued from page 1)

those pastures turned to electronic transfer. Our new printing services used, shhh...Macintosh computers. So I learned (merely a subjective term used here), Adobe Page-Maker to better accommodate the print facilities.

It is said that life's challenges and obstacles make us more enduring with the capability to persevere. Or was that perspire? Well the printing services changed again and back to Microsoft I went. This time Publisher was in '98, therefore not so much to relearn. But here I am perspiring...I mean persevering again.

A lot of articles and stories have been put to paper in the last couple of years. I've been blessed with a club magnitude contained within it for the contributions necessary to keep this newsletter at the quality and quantity level it's members deserve.

Articles mostly of facts, information and individual recognition, numerous articles made their way into print via the non-fiction route. Anyone remember, "You Can hear a Twister Coming On Your Radio", or "Plastic Swamp Gliders, BB Rifles and DX"? There were items of joy (birth announcements) and those of sorrow (SK's). But within the club anyway there were mostly news items of triumph and success. Tower ordinance battles, Field Days, Techfests, fund raisers, etc..

I've been associated with this newsletter for about six years now in one form or another. And having been the Editor for the GARZETTE for two years now, I'm turning the editorship over to other capable hands. It's been my pleasure to serve.

I wish to express my appreciation to those 'regular' contributors which without would make putting together the twelve pages (and sometimes more) a difficult task... impossible perhaps:

The President's Pen – Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

On The Air – Karl Phillips, K4GZZ

ARES/SkyWarn – Lowry Rouse, KM4Z

Meeting Minutes – Bill Ahls, KE4EIH and John Sokol, K9AOK

Happy Birthdays in GARS – Jack Herndon, WU4H

FCC LEVIES HEFTY FINE ON JERSEY HAM <ARRL>

The FCC has levied a \$7500 fine on a New Jersey ham who interfered with a net operation on 40 meter SSB. James C. Thompson, KA2YBP, of Waretown also was ordered off 40 meters until further notice after the October 18 incident. The case against Thompson, 58, stemmed from interference complaints from other amateurs, including the Association of North American Radio Clubs (AN-ARC), which conducts a Sunday morning net on 7240 kHz.

The FCC charged Thompson with illegally retransmitting programs from a Standard Broadcast (AM) station on 40 meters and willfully interfering with the net. The FCC also said Thompson failed to properly identify.

The FCC issued an Official Notice of Violation October 21. In replying to the NOV, Thompson admitted the violations, the FCC said November 9. "Applying the Forfeiture Policy Statement and statutory factors to the instant case, we have determined that a monetary forfeiture in the amount of \$7,500 is warranted," the FCC's notice said. Thompson has 30 days to pay the fine or appeal it.

The Thompson case marked the Commission's first amateur enforcement action since the FCC announced it would consolidate amateur enforcement within the Compliance and Information Bureau. The CIB's legal advisor for enforcement, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says he's spoken with nearly 100 individuals about enforcement complaints or issues since the FCC's latest enforcement initiative began. The FCC expects additional amateur enforcement cases to develop as a result of calls to the Amateur Enforcement Line, 202-418-1184.

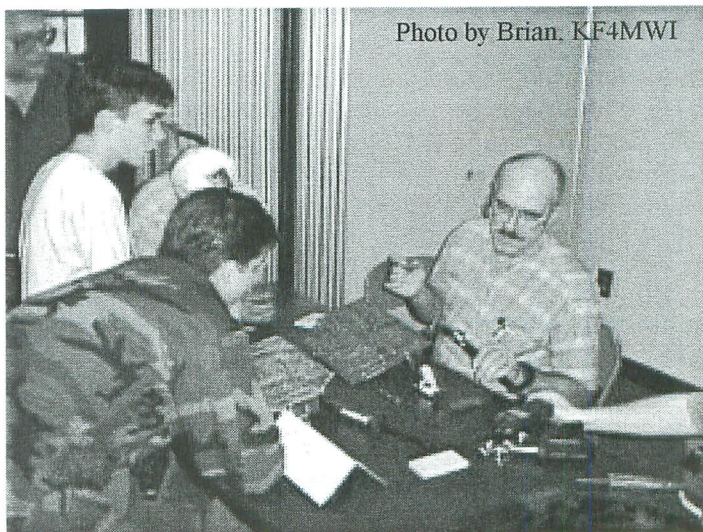


Photo by Brian, KF4MWI

GARS Tech Fest '99 – Here Mike Brooks, K4MLB demonstrates Solder Techniques. He makes it look like 'Magic'.

THREE HAMS ON A MISSION-TO TEN TEC VIA DOLLYWOOD OR BUST

By Karl Phillips, K4GZZ

I Don't normally arise so early while on vacation, but this morning seemed to be more of an adventurous undertaking by nature that nature itself seemed to tug at the sheets.

For weeks we had planned it....and we had talked and talked about this "field trip". I inhaled my coffee and in the flash of a new rig...I was off....K4GZZ/Mobil. (That's mobil, not Mobile as in Alabama.) All this with the help of my truck, my first contact of the new day... K4TJD. Tom and I were on our way to rendezvous with Paul - K4HCM. As we arrive at Paul's QTH, he's standing outside...ready to ride !! Up 85 we go...then to 985...thru Clayton, into Franklin, N.C. and thru the ear poppin' Smoky Mountains. We went thru Pigeon Forge and into Sevierville - HOME OF TEN TEC.

Our trip took about 3 and a half hours and we outran thunderstorms thru North Georgia. On the way up we "fired" up Tom's Alinco DX-70 and worked VE1ZL, DL8PC (in Germany) and WA1PWK...all on phone.

Upon arrival at Ten Tec we were greeted by Stan Brock -WD0BGS. Nice guy !! Stan was ready to give us the grand tour of the plant. Even though we were close to arriving around lunch time, Stan took his time. We made our way thru the molding section of the plant, then to the section that builds the chassis. We then found our way thru the circuit board section. This is the area where we noticed something very unique. All of the people assembling the circuit boards....were little old ladies...sort of like your grannies. Imagine that.... Granny can build a ham rig !! No wonder Singer makes such good sewing machines. Little old ladies in Sevierville, Tennessee...making TEN TEC HF gear !! How cool !! One of these little ladies even gave us her personal critique on her least favorite circuit board to build.

Stan then introduced us to the TEN TEC resident robot ... This robot had one arm and would quickly mark each board and then grab the part and quickly solder it to the board. This guy was fast. Don't know what they call that robot. Let's call him Chip.

After leaving there we stopped by a few assembly stations where all of the coils for the rigs were wound....by hand. We then exited through the production area and were invited into the "on-site" ham shack. Outside... perched on a telescoping tower was their 5 element beam. It was either a Cushcraft or a Hygain. Wires ran into the shack to the various rigs. Among them was the

"mac daddy" of them allThe TEN TEC OMNI 6 Plus. What a rig ?? Also in the shack were 2 meter rigs, short-wave receivers and two massive amps. I think they were the Centurion and the Hercules II. We took the dials for a spin and then broke for lunch. We returned after lunch to wind up our tour.

They did try to sell me an Omni 6 plus. I don't pack that kind of loot !!!

It was a fun trip and on the way back, I got my first CW mobile contact. I bet that guy thought I was a real LID. It is very difficult to send code on a bumpy, winding road, with your ears popping with every change of elevation. I didn't do too badly, working WB1AGP in Maine on CW and later working AB4HM/5 in Texas on phone.

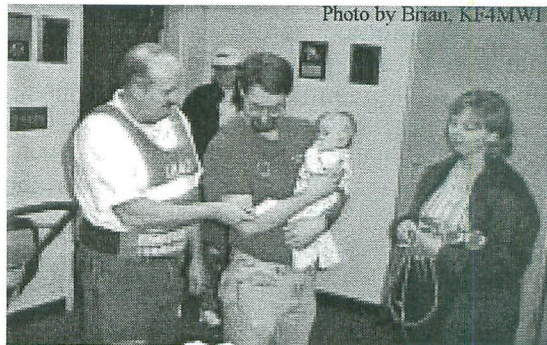
We arrived back in Atlanta around 7:00 P.M. It was well worth the trip. Tom, Paul and I had a good time.

If you are ever in the Sevierville, Tennessee area, do go to TEN TEC for a tour, it is well worth it. Call ahead and speak to Scott W4PA or Stan WB0BGS and let them know when you will be there.

Who knows, maybe the club can rent a bus and we'll all go back !!!

73's - Karl - K4GZZ, Tom - K4TJD, Paul - K4HCM

GARS
Tech Fest
'99 - Here
Lowry,
KM4Z and
Alan,
KF4PZZ &
family
learn more
about
ARES



Food at a
GARS
event!? Oh
yes! Chile,
Corn Bread,
Hot dogs,
Hamburgers
and more.



...The President's Pen

(Continued from page 1)

executive committee meetings to keep **GARS** active and going forward. The fruit of their efforts can be seen as outstanding newsletters, timely handling of membership issues, getting our bills paid, handing mail and meeting minutes, organizing and staffing events, publicizing the club, ordering and delivering club apparel, putting on the best Field Day in the state, organizing great Holiday parties, cooking some really fine BBQ, feeding all of us at Field day, and so much more. I know that at times it appears that we thing about doing stuff and it seems to happen, well without all these great people, that stuff would not happen and **GARS** would not be the active and outstanding club that makes us all proud.

So, what's next for me? For one thing, I become a member of the Board of Directors once I leave office, so I'll be working in an advisory capacity to the next club President. I've also committed to take on a position I've got some familiarity with from past few years in the club. I'll also be active with club events so I'm not going anywhere, just changing hats again.

And last but certainly not least, what's next for **GARS**? We have a great slate of folks running for office to replace those stepping down. I feel good about the current status of the club and see us going forward under new leadership. While leadership is key, it is nothing if you don't respond and support those people providing that leadership. As I leave office I'll do the same as when I entered office. I challenge each and every club member to get involved with at least one club activity during the coming year. This club has so much to offer in terms of variety of activities and positions that need to be staffed that I'm sure you can find at least one thing that is of interest.

Thanks again for all the kind words and support



Needing information on how to QSL? Interested in creating or getting you own online? Ade, W4ADE was your info source at the GARS Tech-Fest '99.

DRAKE ENDS FACTORY SERVICE FOR OLDER GEAR

R. L. Drake Company has announced it no longer will provide factory service for most of its older Amateur Radio and marine equipment. The list includes much--but not all--of the popular 4-Line equipment.

Veteran Drake Service Manager Bill Frost, WD8DFP, says it's getting harder to get parts for the older Drake units. "The big switches, you can't buy those things anymore," he said this week. "The big electrolytics are not available." Frost, who's been with Drake for 32 years, said his department has "reached a point where we cannot service the older products in the manner to which our customers have become accustomed." Technicians familiar with the older, mostly tube-type gear also are in short supply these days. "Our technical expertise on the older equipment has gradually been diminished by the loss of long-time employees due to retirement," Frost said. He also said the cost of repairs can easily exceed the cost of the equipment. The company has posted a list on its Web site at <http://www.rldrake.com/tech/Outofservice.html> of items that it no longer can service. The list includes The R-4 and R-4A receivers, the popular T-4X, XB, and XC HF transmitters, and the TR-3 and TR-4 transceivers, as well as most of the power supplies for those units, the SSR-1 receiver, and the TR-22, 22C and TR-33C 2-meter transceivers. Items on the list and sent to Drake for repair will be returned to the sender un-repaired accompanied by a bill for shipping, handling, and applicable COD fees.

Frost said Drake is still servicing "to an extent" the R-4B and R-4C receivers as well as the TR-5 and TR-7 transceivers. The company also still will provide factory repair service for the L-4, L-4B and L-7 linear amplifiers.

Drake says its supply of unique parts is limited, but it still might be able to supply individual owners with needed parts for do-it-yourself repairs. Frost encouraged Drake owners to call or write if they have any questions about repair or service of a particular piece of equipment--even if it's already on the list.

Call Frost at 513-746-4556 or e-mail him at Bill_Frost@rldrake.com. Frost's mailing address is:

Bill Frost, R.L. Drake Co,
Service Dept, 230 Industrial Dr,
Franklin, OH 45005.

The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, submit items in ASCII text format or Microsoft Word format by email to ad4pz@aol.com. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted on an IBM formatted disk or via email as an unencoded file attachment.

Contact the editor for other format compatibility or other means of transfer.

Deadline for submissions is the first of each month.

GARZETTE Editor

Joe Biddle, AD4PZ

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The GARZETTE is created on a PII-200 MHz computer using Microsoft Publisher 98 running Windows 95.

Paul Brisendine, K4HCM will assist each month with the labels, postage and other GARZETTE preparations for mailing. Thank You Paul!!

All correspondence relating to articles posted in The GARZETTE or for information concerning advertisement rates for The GARZETTE should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor

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FCC SHUTS DOWN FOUR HF PIRATES

The FCC has shut down four unauthorized HF broadcasters in Massachusetts, Illinois, Texas, and California. The stations all transmitted on 6955 kHz. Two of the operators are radio amateurs, according to an FCC spokesperson, who said the ham licenses "are definitely in jeopardy." The two hams were identified as 41-year-old Richard F. Jurens, KC5RGK, a Technician licensee who lives in Katy, Texas, and 46-year-old Henry Lee "Hank" Landsberg, WB6MEU, an Advanced class licensee who lives in Sierra Madre, California. The names of the others cited were being withheld pending further official action.

In making the busts, the FCC's Columbia, Maryland, Operations Center coordinated and provided information to FCC agents from the Boston, Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles offices. FCC inspectors from those offices then performed on-site visits to the unauthorized stations.

With the exception of certain low-power Part 15 devices, broadcasting on the HF bands is not authorized without a station license. Under the Communications Act, violators may be subject to penalties up to \$11,000 and the equipment used may be seized and forfeited by court order. Unlicensed operators also face criminal fines of up to \$100,000 and/or imprisonment for up to one year, or both, for a first time offense.

>NewsLine<

MARCH Birthdays Within GARS

By Jack Herndon, WU4H

- 1 KF4UPN Barbara Moon
- 3 KF4PNX Nate Hope
- 5 KK4AO Richard Carpenter
- 6 KF4RMA Kevin Berry
- 6 Suzanne Farr
- 7 KF4LGX Thorton Williams
- 7 KD4ZPM Carolyn Thigpen
- 8 W4UHF William Kaufman
- 8 KE4QOV Lewis Eberhardt
- 9 K1CFW Carmine Guerrazzi
- 13 WN4S Jim Long
- 13 KE4KYP Chris Fowler
- 16 KE4FZS Jesse Hein
- 17 W4NVF Howard Gould
- 17 KG4AUB Jeremy Goodman
- 18 KF4BML Paul Ahls
- 19 AJ1T Don Button
- 21 KB4YYJ Greg Yates
- 22 KE4ZDH Beth Yates
- 24 WA6NGC Mark Fehlig
- 24 AE4HN Cheryl McClure
- 29 K4KGW Keith Rowland
- 30 KE4MQX Art Smith
- 31 KF4WCL John Galgano

JANUARY Meeting Minutes by John Sokol, K9AOK - Secretary

(As taken by Mike Swiderski, K4HBI, in the absence of John Sokal, K9AOK)

- ◆ President Ike Chapman, KE4GYM, started the meeting at 7:35 PM EST recognizing the four visitors to the meeting. Introductions of the officers and members followed.
- ◆ Ike then gave special recognition to the GARS 1998 Hams of the Year, Susan and Mike Swiderski (AF4FO & K4HBI), and also to the Alford Memorial Radio Club's Amateur of the Year, Gordon Anthony, KF4OKA, also a GARS member.
- ◆ The Alcovy District Boy Scouts of America commendation plaque issued to GARS by Earl Whatley, AF4FG, and Carter Wood, KF4HLF, at the 1998 Christmas party was displayed and entered into the club archives.
- ◆ Ike proudly announced that a GARS member, Lowry Rouse, KM4Z, Gwinnett County Emergency Coordinator (EC) was named as the Georgia Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) Ham of the Year. Following this, Lowry was then presented with a commendation plaque by Ike from the GARS for his outstanding work as Gwinnett County EC and his building of the ARES in the area. Lowry's comments centered on the program's success being due to the involvement of the people around him. Great job and congratulations were offered to Lowry Rouse, KM4Z.
- ◆ Kevin, KF4HFN, announced that John Farr, KD6CLO, became a proud papa for the second time on Jan 20. Joshua weighed in at 9 lbs. 6 ozs. The clubs thoughts and well wishes go out to Suzanne and John.
- ◆ A group of GARS people headed up by Howie (W4NVF), Eddie (WD4JEM), John (KF4MZD), etc have placed the GARS 6 meter FM repeater on the air from the Lawrenceville water tower site. Howie demonstrated its operation with a 6 meter HT and dummy load (rubber duck antenna) from the basement of the church. The repeater operates with the output on 53.110 MHz and the input on 52.110 MHz, the standard 1MHz offset, minus. No PL tone is required. Great job to all who helped and it does sound good.
- ◆ Next item of discussion was participation for the February 5, 6, and 7th dog shows. Participants are still needed, especially for the 5th and 7th. Ike and Marty both made pleas for volunteers and Marty passed around a sign up sheet. As either an incentive or reward for working at the dog show, besides the HRO gift certificates, a 6 meter HT, "Pryme PR-52", will be the featured drawing prize. Chances for this drawing are earned at the rate of one per shift. Work one four-hour shift, either 6 to 10 or 10 to 2, and get one chance. Work the whole show, all 6 shifts, and get six chances. The fun, the antics, and the experience are worth volunteering for alone, but now a chance at winning a 6M HT seems quite an incentive.
- ◆ Next up was GARS own, Kevin McClure, KF4HFN, giving the program on Cable TV Leakage. The cable distribution system utilizes the same spectrum (4 to 50 MHz for home to node, and 50 to 750+ MHz node to home) that covers many of the *amateur* radio bands. The concerns are ingress (our or other signals entering the cable system) and egress (cable company signals being radiated out into the air). Poor home installations, read inferior shielded components and coax, are primary problems. Secondary issues are the cable company defects, poorly installed or broken connections as well as cracked or damaged hardline, ie the cable used as a squirrel snack. The impact to hams is typically interference as an increased noise level from the digital signals and beat products from the analog leakage. Kevin suggested making a clean sweep of your own home first using an HT tuned to 139.25 Mhz. The leakage poses problems not only to hams, but other services as well, such as aeronautical services. Problems with leakage problem resolution should be handled in three steps after you have cleared your own house; 1. Contact the cable company (minimum of three times), 2. Contact the franchise owner (ie Gwinnett Co. here), then 3. Contact the FCC with a history of your attempts to get the problem resolved with the cable company. Fantastic and informative program by Kevin, also he had hand outs of FCC FAQ fact sheets. In conjunction with this program, an anonymous source indicated that Media One's engineer and technical group can be reached at 770-559-2424. Helpful, especially when the customer service people do not understand the problem.
- ◆ Barry, N1TOQ, our Tech Fest Chairman, reported on the status of displays for the fest. He solicited for more displays and additional chili and corn bread entries. Even though the start is set for 11 AM, there is to be a demo of Oscar 27 satellite operation before that time and suggested arrival time around 10:30 AM. Plans were made to meet for the normal club breakfast and then descend upon the church for room and tower setup.

OLD BUSINESS

- ◆ The minutes of the previous meeting as published in the "Garzette" were accepted by motion, second, and unanimous vote.
- ◆ The reading of the treasurer's report was suspended until the "New Business" where the budget would be discussed and the report covered.

- ♦ Member questions regarding the dog show were brought up and answered. Howie is looking for additional Extra Class hams who are certified Volunteer Examiners (Ves) to sign up with and help with his W5YI VE testing group. He also made 610 forms available.
- ♦ Mike, K4HBI announced that GARS own Win Jackson, N1TWX, Education Chairman, was nominated for the ARRL's Excellence in Recruiting Award by the GARS group and approved by the ARRL Section Manager, Sandy Donahue, W4RU. Win, Good Luck and we are pulling for you on the award.
- ♦ The GARS classes started January 19 with Win reporting that 11-12 folks showed up for the no-code Technician class and 8-9 showed up for the General class. Win made a request for three additional instructors to help or serve as backup for these classes.
- ♦ W4ADE, Ade, requested that the people who offered to be on the Field Day (FD) committee remain after the meeting for a 10 minute session to kick off the FD meeting and assignment schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ Ike reviewed the executive committee's proposed January 1 to June 30, 1999 budget. This six month budget will allow the incoming officers to get settled in and then to establish the fiscal year budget. The proposed budget is as follows:

Inflows: (Income)

Apparel	\$ 500
Dog Show	\$2400
Dues	\$2600
Rptr Fund	\$ 260
Total	\$5760

Outflows: (Expense)

Activities	\$1900	(T.F. \$100, F.D. \$1500, Club Mtg Rent \$240)
Apparel	\$ 425	
Insurance	\$ 350	
Membership	\$ 150	
Misc.	\$ 500	
Newsletter	\$1250	(\$350 Print, \$900 Postage)
Publicity	\$ 100	
Repeater	s	\$1000
Utilities	\$ 700	
Total	\$6375	

This appears as a deficit of \$615.15, however with a balance of about \$2795 in the checkbook, the additional income of Christmas party ticket money, and second half year being the major revenue producer with dues and the two dog shows, the transition to the new officers is very positive and sound financially. The proposed budget was accepted and approved by motion, second, and unanimous vote.

NEW MEMBERS – The membership chairman, Jack, WU4H, was not present and one application was received at the meeting from: N3HOE, ALAN DIXON. A vote was taken to accept Alan and all previously received mail applications that Jack may have on file. The new member(s) were accepted and approved by unanimous vote. Welcome aboard.

NOMINATIONS – Nominations for the 1999 election of officers was taken from the floor with the following results:

President:	David, KA4KKF
Vice Pres.:	Rick, KD4VOJ and Kevin, KF4HFN
Secretary:	Mike, K4HBI
Treasurer:	Jeff, KF4NBD
Activities:	Howie, W4NVF

A second round of nominations will be requested at the February meeting.

CHAIRMEN - The current status of the chairmen of GARS will require the filling of at least two positions, Public Relations and Membership. The Apparel Chairwoman, Susan, AF4FO has agreed to stay on unless somebody else wants it. Barry, N1TOQ, current Tech Fest 99 Chairman stated he will continue and be Tech Fest 00 Chairman. No information on the other chairman positions was discussed.

WRAP UP – Announcements regarding upcoming events, door prize drawing (HRO \$25 gift certificate to K4HBI) ended the meeting, which Ike called to a close at 9:20 PM EST.

FCC COMES A CALLIN' IN THE CAROLINAS

FCC engineering and legal staff conducted unannounced Amateur Radio station inspections January 21 and 22 in North and South Carolina, reports FCC amateur enforcement honcho Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. "Commission personnel inspected the stations of John A. Abernethy, K4OKA, an Extra Class licensee in Hickory, North Carolina, and Richard Whiten, WB2OTK, a General Class licensee in Easley, South Carolina," Hollingsworth said. In both visits, FCC officials were accompanied by local law enforcement personnel. Hollingsworth said both amateurs cooperated with the inspections, which lasted approximately two hours apiece.

FCC officials said that both operators "were the subjects of many complaints about their operations on the 75 and 20 meter Amateur bands." The officials said the results of the inspections were "under review," and declined further comment. Earlier this month, the FCC issued a stern warning to an Indian River County, Florida ham who, the FCC said, had been using the amateur airwaves to transmit information on, among other things, the credit reports, criminal records, and mortgage foreclosures of other hams and their families.

"You have apparently made these disclosures and broadcasts for the purpose of deliberately and maliciously interfering with licensed Amateurs operating on those bands, and for harassment or perceived retaliation," said the letter, signed by Hollingsworth. "We view this matter as extremely serious," he told the ARRL. Hollingsworth called the alleged operation "contrary to the purpose of Amateur Radio" and said that it "endangers the entire Amateur Radio frequency allocation internationally."

-FCC, ARRL

Four License Upgrades Rolled Back by FCC

The FCC has told four hams that it is temporarily setting aside their recent Extra Class license grants and privileges. This, while it investigates alleged irregularities in the volunteer examination process that might affect them.

According to information on the ARRL's members webpage, letters went out on Tuesday November 10th from Catherine W. Seidel, who is the acting chief, of the Enforcement and Consumer Information Division. They were mailed to Elmer Smith, N3UNR, of Effort Pennsylvania; Philip DiGenova, N3UNS, of Bartonsville, Pennsylvania; Wayne Bowden, AA3RT, of Millsboro, Delaware; and Kenneth L. Sharp, AA3RU, of Boyertown, Pennsylvania. The letters request that all four individuals return their Extra Class license documents and Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination to the FCC's License Processing facility in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

An FCC official tells the ARRL that the agency is looking into testing irregularities including allegations that some examinees might have been coached or given test answers. But the FCC also goes to great pains to let the four hams know that they are not being accused of any wrongdoing. In fact, Seidel's letter goes as far as telling each of the applicants that her correspondence is not in any way a finding that anyone has engaged in misconduct. She adds that if the FCC's investigation concludes that it should grant their Extra Class license applications, that they will be reinstated.

(FCC, ARRL)

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Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House, 5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody.
Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by meeting. Talk In 145.410(-)

First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta.
Meeting begins at 7:30pm. Talk In 146.88(-)

First Wednesday

HamWatch

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Dinner
at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM

First Thursday

N.E. Ga ARC

Jefferson Civic Center, off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from
Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. Talk In - 147.225(+)

Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Power Federal Credit Union, 4900 Ashford Dunwoody
Road, 1 Mile North of Perimeter Mall. Meeting is at 7:30PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

Second Wednesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Ryan's on Alpharetta Highway (Hwy 9), Alpharetta, Dinner at
6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at
7:30PM. Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Dunwoody
Meeting is at 10:00AM. Talk In - 145.41(-)AND
443.025+T100

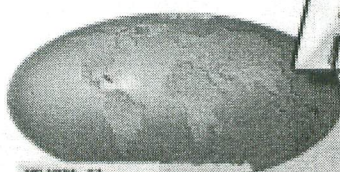
3rd THURSDAY

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church in Lawrenceville. Meeting begins at
7:30 in the fellowship hall. Talk In-147.075(+)



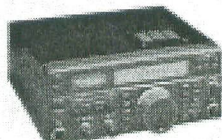
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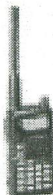
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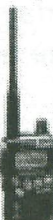


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VX-1R



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FT-500



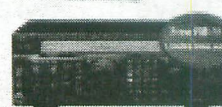
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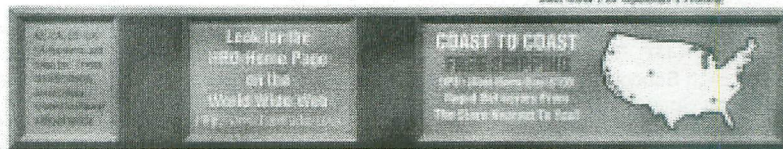
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THE GARZETTE

FEBRUARY 1999

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048



GARS meets the third Thursday of each month at Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville. The next meeting will be FEBRUARY 18, 1999 at 7:30 P.M

GARS Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a Service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Sunday - 2:00pm WCARS VEC
Terry Jones, K4FB 770-967-6364
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville

1st Saturday - 9:00AM
George White, KN4NG 361-6850
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg.
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759
Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Rd.
Snellville

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - CA VEC
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171
Marietta First United Methodist Church 56
Whitlock Ave, Room 305

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK - 942-6466.
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

4th Friday - 7:00PM W5YI-VEC
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks
Trickum Rd, Lilburn
Headphones Provided!



Atlanta Area Nets and Round Tables

Mon	50.235	8:30PM	Regional 6 Meter SSB Net
Mon	147.21+	9:00PM	Conyers ARES Net t-162.2
Mon	145.45-	8:00PM	ARES Net (Decatur)
Mon	145.47-	8:00PM	North Fulton ARL Net
Mon	145.41-	8:30PM	MATPARC Net
Mon	3.975	8:00PM	Swap Net
Mon	147.075+	9:00PM	Gwinnett ARES Net
Tue	147.075+	8:00PM	GARS Weekly Net
Tue	147.075+	9:00PM	GARS CW Practice
Tue	145.47-	10:30PM	Insomniac Net
Tue	28.420	7:30PM	Ten Meter Traders Net
Wed	145.41	11:30AM	Boy Scout Youth Net
Wed	145.150-	8:00PM	Georgia Tech Stinger Net
Wed	145.41-	8:00PM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Wed	146.67-	9:00PM	LARC Net
Thu	146.88-	8:30PM	Kennehoochee ARC
Thu	147.225+	8:00PM	NE Ga ARC
Thu	147.15	8:00PM	simplex
Thu	145.41-	9:30PM	AMSAT
Thu	427.25ATV	9:00PM	Amateur Television, ATV
	146.655 Voice		
Fri	3.898	8:00PM	GA Traders Net
Fri	145.47-	8:00PM	NFARL Youth Net
Fri	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sat	7.275	8:00AM	Swap Net
Sat	3.857	9:00AM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Sat	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sun	146.82-	8:00PM	ARC Net
Sun	146.76-	7:00PM	Roundtable AMRC t-107.2
Sun	7.275	9:00AM	GA Traders Net
Sun	3.983	5:00PM	GA ARES
Daily	146.76-	Noon	Brown Bag Net t-107.2
Daily	146.88-	11:00PM	Late Nite Owl Net
Daily	146.79-	8:00PM	Sassafras Mtn.
Daily	3.975	6:00PM	WX & Skywarn

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.